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National Weather Summary
September 7 - 13, 2008

Highlights: Hurricane Ike made landfall on **Galveston Island, TX**, at 2:10 a.m. CDT on September 13. Maximum sustained winds were near 110 m.p.h., making Ike the third category 2 hurricane (along with Dolly and Gustav) to strike the U.S. this year. Ike was the sixth consecutive named **Atlantic Basin** tropical system to make landfall in the U.S. (following Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gustav, and Hanna), breaking the satellite-era record of five storms in a row set on several occasions, most recently in August-September 2004. Ike had a profound effect on the **Galveston/Houston area** due to flooding (induced by both rainfall and storm surge) and high winds. However, the largest measured storm surge occurred east of the storm's center at **Sabine Pass**, on the Texas-Louisiana border. Surge values were more than 10 feet above normal on parts of **Galveston Island** and 12.5 feet above normal at **Sabine Pass**. In **southern Louisiana**, sugarcane producers monitored the effects of salt-water intrusion, since storm-surge heights in many cases were similar to those observed with Hurricane Gustav just 2 weeks earlier. Along the **Texas coast**, the rice harvest was nearly complete, but a portion of the cotton crop was battered by wind and rain. In the **lower Mississippi Valley** and neighboring areas, cotton, rice, sorghum, and soybeans that were adversely affected by Gustav were subjected to another round of gusty winds and locally heavy rain. Farther north, a moisture-laden cold front preceded Ike's arrival. Moisture associated with former **eastern Pacific** Tropical Storm Lowell entrained into the cold front contributed to 4- to 10-inch rainfall totals from **western Texas into southern Michigan**. Locations reporting their wettest day on record included **Lubbock, TX** (7.46 inches on September 11), and **Chicago, IL** (6.64 inches on September 13). On the **southern Plains**, downpours halted winter wheat planting preparations and threatened the quality of sorghum, open-boll cotton, and other unharvested summer crops. In parts of the **southern, central, and eastern Corn Belt**, crops such as corn, sorghum, and soybeans were subjected to flooding rains or wind gusts as high as 60 to 75 m.p.h., or a combination of both, raising concerns about lodging and crop quality. Elsewhere, chilly weather settled across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest**, while warm, dry weather promoted fieldwork and crop development in the **West Coast States**. Widespread temperatures below 40 degrees F were noted across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest** on September 8-9, but immature corn and soybeans escaped the cool spell without injury.

Cool weather settled into the **Northwest** early in the week, followed by several chilly days across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest**. **Boundary Dam, WA** (33 degrees F), opened the week with a daily-record low for September 7. Farther east, **Sisseton, SD**, noted consecutive daily-record lows of 37 degrees F on September 8 and 9. Other daily-record lows for September 9 included 36 degrees F in **Atlantic, IA**, and 42 degrees F in **St. Joseph, MO.** By mid-week, cool weather returned to much of the **West**, where **Boundary Dam** (31 degrees F on September 11) posted another daily-record low. In **northern Idaho**, **Porthill** (27 and 23 degrees F) notched consecutive daily-record lows on September 11-12. In contrast, record warmth briefly affected areas **west of the Oregon Cascades**, where records highs for September 11 included 91 degrees F in **Portland** and 86 degrees F in **Tillamook**. Record warmth also prevailed toward week's end around the periphery of Hurricane Ike. A daily record-tying high of 94 degrees F in **Tampa, FL**, on September 12, was followed the next day by records in **Texas** locations such as **San Antonio** (100 degrees F) and **Austin** (99 degrees F).

Prior to Ike's arrival, widespread showers were associated with a pair of cold fronts. By mid-week, the first front stalled across the **South**, generating locally heavy showers. **Tyler, TX** (2.49 and 2.85 inches), measured consecutive daily-record amounts on September 8 and 9. Elsewhere in **Texas**, **San Angelo** (3.05 inches) received a daily-record total for September 8. Meanwhile, daily-record totals in **Tennessee** reached 1.28 inches (on

September 8) in **Knoxville** and 1.49 inches (on September 9) in **Bristol**. Locally heavy showers also dotted the **Northeast**, where **Scranton, PA** (1.58 inches on September 9), netted a daily-record amount. Heavy rain lingered along the **Mid-Atlantic Coast** through September 11, when **Norfolk, VA**, collected 3.16 inches. Farther west, phenomenally heavy rainfall developed on September 11 on the **central and southern High Plains**. In fact, September 11 was the wettest day on record in **Lubbock, TX** (7.46 inches; previously 5.70 inches on June 1, 1967), and **Colorado Springs, CO** (4.29 inches; previously, 3.98 inches on August 4, 1999). **Lubbock's** 24-hour total on September 11-12 reached 7.80 inches, shattering its record of 5.82 inches established on October 18-19, 1983. The following day, September 12, featured an all-time-record daily total of 10.31 inches in **Wichita, KS** (previously, 6.82 inches on June 8, 1923). **Wichita** also achieved records for its wettest 24-hour period (10.31 inches; previously 7.99 inches on September 6-7, 1911) and wettest September (12.94 inches; previously, 10.69 inches in 1999).

From September 8-10, Hurricane Ike grazed **southern Florida**, where **Key West** measured 2.31 inches of rain and clocked a wind gust to 60 m.p.h. On September 13, peak gusts in **Texas** from instrumentation that survived the hurricane's final landfall included 102 m.p.h. at **Anahuac Airport (Chambers County)**, 99 m.p.h. at **Sea Rim State Park (Jefferson County)**, and 92 m.p.h. at **Houston's Hobby Airport**. After landfall, Ike accelerated northeastward while merging with a cold front, reaching the **lower Great Lakes region** by the afternoon of September 14. Rainfall records associated with Ike's passage through **Missouri** on September 14 included 4.58 inches in **St. Louis** and 4.43 inches in **Vichy-Rolla**. With Gustav and Ike, **Arkansas** experienced the passage of two former hurricanes in one season for the first time since 1985, when the remnants of Danny and Elena crossed a portion of the state. High winds were observed east of Ike's center in the **Ohio Valley**, where peak gusts in **Ohio** on September 14 reached 75 m.p.h. in **Columbus** and 74 m.p.h. in **Cincinnati**. In parts of the **Midwest**, heavy rain preceded Ike's arrival. On September 13, **Chicago, IL** (6.64 inches), and **South Bend, IN** (6.58 inches), set single-day rainfall records. Former records were 6.49 inches (on August 14, 1987) in **Chicago** and 4.69 inches (on June 25, 1968) in **South Bend**. The 2-day (September 13-14) rainfall in **South Bend** reached 10.65 inches, boosting its monthly total (13.65 inches through September 14) to a record-setting level for September (previously, 9.01 inches in 1977) and any month (previously, 10.86 inches in June 1993). In the rain's wake, record crests were noted in several locations, including the **Little Calumet River at Munster, IN** (5.32 feet above flood stage on September 14; previously, 5.03 feet on November 28, 1990); the **Kankakee River at Shelby, IN** (4.06 feet above flood stage on September 16; previously, 3.98 feet on March 24, 1982); and the **Illinois River at Morris, IL** (8.84 feet above flood stage on September 16; previously, 7.91 feet on July 14, 1957). In **Hermann, MO**, the **Missouri River** (10.44 feet above flood stage on September 16) climbed to its ninth-highest level on record, and highest level since May 19, 1995.

Near- to above-normal temperatures prevailed in **Alaska**, with readings as much as 6 degrees F above normal across the mainland. **Nome** experienced its warmest first 10 days of September on record, including 8 days with highs of 60 degrees F or greater. **Nome's** former September record for days at or above 60 degrees F was 6 days in 1968. **Alaskan** daily-record highs included 65 degrees F (on September 7) in **Kotzebue** and 62 degrees F (on September 9) in **Nome**. Heavy precipitation was confined to **southern Alaska**, where the weekly rainfall total in **Yakutat** reached 7.61 inches. Farther south, mostly dry weather persisted in **Hawaii**, although enough rain fell in **Lihue, Kauai** (0.59 inch on September 12), to result in a daily-record total. Several other locations on **Kauai** and **Oahu** received at least 1 to 2 inches of rain on September 12-13. Nevertheless, **Lihue's** year-to-date rainfall through September 13 stood at just 10.41 inches (43 percent of normal).

National Weather Summary provided by USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board.
For more information, call (202) 720-2397.

National Agricultural Summary
September 8 - 14, 2008

Corn: Hurricane Ike moved through southern areas of the Corn Belt with a band of heavy rain stretching from eastern Kansas northeastward into the Great Lakes. Temperatures remained below average to the west of the band of rain, but above normal to the east. Ninety-six percent of the corn acreage reached the dough stage, 4 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Progress in all States was within 7 points of normal. Seventy-eight percent of the Nation's acreage reached the dent stage, 17 points behind last year and 11 points behind the 5-year average. Denting was complete in Tennessee and was nearly complete in North Carolina and Texas. In Colorado and Michigan, the crop was reaching the dent stage ahead of the 5-year average. Elsewhere, the crop was developing at or behind the normal pace. Nineteen percent of the corn acreage reached maturity, 39 points behind last year and 25 percentage points behind the 5-year average. In Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri, corn development was more than 30 points behind average. Corn was developing to maturity 42 and 52 points behind normal in Illinois and Missouri, respectively. Corn condition was rated 61 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

Soybeans: Heavy rains fell from Kansas northeastward to the Great Lakes, dumping more than 6 inches of precipitation across much of the region. Elsewhere, lesser amounts fell over much of the soybean-growing area. Leaf dropping had occurred on 21 percent of the soybean acreage, lagging 27 points behind last year and 20 points behind the 5-year average. Leaf-dropping was occurring behind average in all States except Michigan, where development was 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Illinois, Minnesota, and Mississippi, the crop was developing more than 30 points behind normal. Condition of the crop was rated 57 percent good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week.

Winter Wheat: Heavy rains fell from the Low Plains of Texas northward through portions of Oklahoma and Kansas. Producers had planted 11 percent of their winter wheat acreage, 1 point behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Cooler than average temperatures over major winter wheat producing areas of the country kept planting activities behind schedule. In Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Texas, planting was 10 or more points behind normal, while elsewhere; planting was within 7 points of the usual pace.

Cotton: The Delta region was spared a direct hit from Hurricane Ike, but did receive some rainfall. Temperatures in the region remained within 4 degrees of normal. West of the Mississippi River cooler than average temperatures remained, as a cold front moved across the western half of the Nation. Boll opening occurred on 40 percent of the cotton acreage, 12 points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. In Arkansas and Mississippi, development was 13 and 25 points behind the 5-year average, respectively, while in Louisiana, bolls were opening 1 point ahead of normal. Producers had harvested 7 percent of the cotton crop by week's end, 1 point ahead of last year's pace but 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest progress was furthest along in Arizona and Texas. Condition of the cotton crop was rated 47 percent good to excellent, a 2 point decline from the previous week.

Sorghum: Major sorghum producing areas of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas received up to 10 inches of rainfall during the week. Ninety-six percent of the sorghum acreage was at or beyond heading, 4 points behind last year and 1 point behind the 5-year average. Heading was complete or nearly complete except in New Mexico and Oklahoma. Seventy-one percent of the acreage was coloring or beyond, 18 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Acreage reaching maturity, at 38 percent, lagged 11 points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Major delays

were evident in Illinois, where development was 50 points behind the 5-year average. Producers had harvested 29 percent of the sorghum acreage, 8 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest in Arkansas was 45 points behind average, while elsewhere; harvest was within 11 points of normal. Fifty-four percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, 1 point better than the previous week.

Rice: A quarter of the rice acreage was harvested, 19 points behind last year and 16 points behind the 5-year average. The most significant delays were in Arkansas and Mississippi, where producers were harvesting 20 and 30 points behind the 5-year average, respectively. Rice condition was rated 62 percent good to excellent, 1 point better than a week earlier.

Small Grains: Barley producers had harvested 92 percent of the crop, 8 points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. Other than in Montana, where harvest was 15 points behind the 5-year average, harvest was within 9 points of normal in all States.

Spring wheat harvest reached 92 percent complete, 7 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was within 8 points of the average pace in all States.

Corn: Percent Dough, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
CO	100	98	98	94
IL	98	95	100	100
IN	97	94	100	100
IA	92	82	99	99
KS	100	97	100	100
KY	100	99	100	100
MI	93	90	99	93
MN	97	94	100	97
MO	95	92	100	100
NE	97	94	100	99
NC	100	100	100	100
ND	89	82	100	95
OH	100	92	99	99
PA	94	90	98	94
SD	98	93	100	99
TN	100	100	100	100
TX	99	98	100	100
WI	84	76	97	91
18 Sts	96	91	100	98

[1] These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.

Corn: Percent Dented, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
CO	80	57	73	72
IL	77	60	98	96
IN	77	61	93	89
IA	71	50	95	92
KS	94	85	98	97
KY	93	85	98	96
MI	78	68	83	71
MN	81	61	99	87
MO	81	72	98	98
NE	85	70	97	91
NC	99	96	100	99
ND	55	34	90	80
OH	83	63	89	85
PA	70	62	81	76
SD	81	63	93	87
TN	100	98	100	100
TX	95	90	100	98
WI	48	31	84	69
18 Sts	78	62	95	89

[1] These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.

Corn: Percent Mature, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
CO	34	11	31	26
IL	16	4	81	58
IN	19	8	54	42
IA	11	3	61	45
KS	41	28	78	72
KY	74	61	90	80
MI	16	10	38	23
MN	6	2	61	31
MO	30	17	82	82
NE	9	5	41	30
NC	95	84	99	93
ND	2	1	39	28
OH	18	10	25	19
PA	32	25	48	36
SD	7	2	37	28
TN	76	58	100	92
TX	67	66	84	83
WI	8	5	30	19
18 Sts	19	11	58	44

[1] These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.

Soybeans: Percent Dropping Leaves, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	12	8	42	38
IL	7	2	52	39
IN	32	18	57	48
IA	16	5	46	44
KS	21	9	37	39
KY	16	7	41	24
LA	57	52	76	67
MI	28	11	21	25
MN	18	5	71	49
MS	51	40	81	82
MO	5	2	24	24
NE	13	3	22	27
NC	11	6	18	14
ND	30	12	66	52
OH	37	20	47	41
SD	43	26	56	59
TN	36	23	69	45
WI	27	5	33	34
18 Sts	21	10	48	41

[1] These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.

Winter Wheat: Percent Planted, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	0	NA	1	1
CA	5	NA	7	2
CO	34	NA	19	30
ID	14	NA	21	14
IL	1	NA	1	1
IN	0	NA	0	1
KS	5	NA	6	9
MI	2	NA	2	4
MO	0	NA	1	1
MT	7	NA	23	21
NE	18	NA	30	31
NC	0	NA	0	1
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	11	NA	10	17
OR	15	NA	12	8
SD	18	NA	29	28
TX	8	NA	7	20
WA	35	NA	47	39
18 Sts	11	NA	12	16

[1] These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Rice: Percent Harvested, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	16	5	38	36
CA	4	0	13	9
LA	73	48	88	90
MS	20	8	62	50
MO	6	0	38	19
TX	91	90	91	93
6 Sts	25	14	44	41

[1] These 6 States harvested 100% of last year's rice acreage.

Cotton: Percent Bolls Opening, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AL	61	53	68	63
AZ	80	70	76	78
AR	60	28	84	73
CA	41	25	51	48
GA	53	37	39	56
KS	16	15	11	20
LA	84	65	84	83
MS	58	39	88	83
MO	46	28	92	60
NC	57	35	82	62
OK	41	29	30	44
SC	39	19	51	44
TN	45	25	94	61
TX	22	21	31	34
VA	54	31	78	70
15 Sts	40	29	52	50

[1] These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Cotton: Percent Harvested, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AL	1	NA	4	4
AZ	15	NA	9	5
AR	0	NA	8	4
CA	0	NA	0	0
GA	1	NA	0	2
KS	0	NA	0	0
LA	5	NA	1	11
MS	0	NA	4	9
MO	0	NA	18	4
NC	0	NA	1	0
OK	0	NA	0	0
SC	0	NA	0	0
TN	0	NA	4	2
TX	14	NA	8	16
VA	0	NA	0	0
15 Sts	7	NA	6	9

[1] These 15 States harvested 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Barley: Percent Harvested, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
ID	85	67	99	94
MN	99	95	100	96
MT	81	76	100	96
ND	100	97	100	97
WA	95	75	100	100
5 Sts	92	85	100	96

[1] These 5 States harvested 85% of last year's barley acreage.

Spring Wheat: Percent Harvested, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
ID	91	75	99	97
MN	97	87	100	91
MT	86	82	99	94
ND	91	87	99	93
SD	100	100	100	100
WA	96	83	100	100
6 Sts	92	87	99	94

[1] These 6 States harvested 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Sorghum: Percent Headed, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	100	100	100	100
CO	100	100	100	98
IL	100	100	100	99
KS	95	92	100	98
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	97	96	99	100
NE	100	99	100	99
NM	86	82	86	90
OK	89	80	95	94
SD	100	97	100	100
TX	96	93	100	96
11 Sts	96	93	100	97

[1] These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Sorghum: Percent Coloring, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	100	97	100	100
CO	96	91	74	60
IL	52	39	95	90
KS	63	52	85	75
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	61	52	80	88
NE	68	45	91	81
NM	49	*45	60	47
OK	59	45	67	68
SD	85	67	93	87
TX	75	73	95	76
11 Sts	71	64	89	77

* Revised.
[1] These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Sorghum: Percent Mature, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	89	79	100	95
CO	41	20	36	25
IL	5	0	82	55
KS	10	5	17	21
LA	100	100	100	99
MO	23	10	38	47
NE	1	0	12	13
NM	2	1	5	5
OK	25	20	17	30
SD	5	2	33	24
TX	67	66	84	66
11 Sts	38	34	49	43

[1] These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Sorghum: Percent Harvested, Selected States [1]

State	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg.
	Sep 14, 2008	Sep 7, 2008	Sep 14, 2007	
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	28	10	85	73
CO	3	0	4	1
IL	0	0	16	6
KS	0	0	2	6
LA	86	74	92	93
MO	4	1	12	15
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	11	8	6	13
SD	0	0	2	1
TX	66	65	79	62
11 Sts	29	28	37	32

[1] These 11 States harvested 96% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Corn: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
CO	5	11	30	32	22
IL	3	6	25	52	14
IN	3	11	31	43	12
IA	3	9	25	48	15
KS	3	8	30	49	10
KY	2	10	21	39	28
MI	7	14	29	35	15
MN	5	9	24	52	10
MO	4	15	34	38	9
NE	2	4	17	55	22
NC	25	26	30	15	4
ND	2	6	23	55	14
OH	9	19	37	29	6
PA	1	13	22	45	19
SD	2	4	17	51	26
TN	3	15	34	42	6
TX	16	16	26	38	4
WI	7	15	32	39	7
18 Sts	4	9	26	47	14
Prev Wk	4	9	26	47	14
Prev Yr	5	9	23	46	17

Soybeans: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	4	13	33	37	13
IL	3	6	28	53	10
IN	5	12	36	38	9
IA	3	9	28	47	13
KS	0	4	24	52	20
KY	5	15	27	35	18
LA	20	32	38	10	0
MI	9	16	30	35	10
MN	3	7	25	49	16
MS	6	13	32	37	12
MO	5	16	36	34	9
NE	2	6	23	55	14
NC	2	13	32	43	10
ND	1	5	15	61	18
OH	10	21	39	25	5
SD	1	4	21	51	23
TN	9	17	33	37	4
WI	7	15	30	39	9
18 Sts	4	10	29	45	12
Prev Wk	4	10	29	44	13
Prev Yr	6	11	27	43	13

Peanuts: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AL	2	1	26	54	17
FL	0	0	29	55	16
GA	2	4	29	53	12
NC	0	2	28	60	10
OK	0	2	22	70	6
SC	0	4	23	63	10
TX	1	4	31	61	3
VA	0	12	45	34	9
8 Sts	1	3	29	56	11
Prev Wk	1	3	28	56	12
Prev Yr	7	13	32	37	11

Rice: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	2	9	30	45	14
CA	0	5	21	60	14
LA	6	22	39	27	6
MS	0	4	11	48	37
MO	0	1	9	49	41
TX	3	3	28	50	16
6 Sts	2	9	27	46	16
Prev Wk	2	8	29	44	17
Prev Yr	0	3	26	51	20

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent.
National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 2007 planted acres.

Cotton: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AL	3	12	38	41	6
AZ	0	2	16	67	15
AR	1	10	35	42	12
CA	0	0	5	40	55
GA	4	10	44	35	7
KS	5	10	30	45	10
LA	24	30	39	7	0
MS	7	10	23	42	18
MO	3	8	23	57	9
NC	2	11	33	44	10
OK	4	12	39	35	10
SC	5	11	49	33	2
TN	0	8	33	52	7
TX	9	18	33	31	9
VA	0	19	48	25	8
15 Sts	6	14	33	36	11
Prev Wk	6	14	31	37	12
Prev Yr	7	14	30	37	12

Sorghum: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AR	0	9	41	38	12
CO	4	13	44	37	2
IL	3	2	17	61	17
KS	2	8	28	51	11
LA	0	11	44	42	3
MO	1	7	39	45	8
NE	0	3	23	56	18
NM	0	32	33	34	1
OK	1	14	31	50	4
SD	3	4	24	53	16
TX	5	14	36	40	5
11 Sts	3	11	32	46	8
Prev Wk	3	11	33	44	9
Prev Yr	2	7	26	50	15

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent.
National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 2007 planted acres.

Pasture and Range: Crop Condition by Percent, Selected States, Week Ending Sep 14, 2008

State	VP	P	F	G	EX	State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*		*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
AL	4	15	32	40	9	NJ	0	0	70	30	0
AZ	2	23	33	30	12	NM	3	8	24	48	17
AR	0	2	25	54	19	NY	0	5	23	59	13
CA	81	19	0	0	0	NC	10	14	37	34	5
CO	8	20	39	26	7	ND	17	26	32	22	3
CT	0	3	26	59	12	OH	17	28	32	21	2
DE	35	48	13	3	1	OK	2	7	32	50	9
FL	5	5	25	55	10	OR	23	32	34	11	0
GA	4	12	43	38	3	PA	13	28	40	15	4
ID	3	22	42	30	3	RI	0	10	30	40	20
IL	2	6	30	54	8	SC	6	21	37	35	1
IN	11	24	37	25	3	SD	1	9	25	50	15
IA	4	13	32	42	9	TN	11	25	38	25	1
KS	4	8	25	54	9	TX	8	15	38	32	7
KY	29	29	29	12	1	UT	9	14	29	41	7
LA	6	12	46	33	3	VT	0	29	28	40	3
ME	0	0	16	67	17	VA	8	23	42	25	2
MD	3	23	41	30	3	WA	10	28	38	22	2
MA	0	0	25	75	0	WV	3	16	40	40	1
MI	13	28	31	24	4	WI	11	31	34	22	2
MN	12	24	33	29	2	WY	2	13	44	34	7
MS	2	4	32	50	12						
MO	1	6	30	54	9	48 Sts	11	16	31	35	7
MT	7	20	38	29	6						
NE	3	11	27	52	7	Prev Wk	11	17	32	34	6
NV	11	20	44	24	1	Prev Yr	16	18	27	31	8
NH	0	0	31	57	12						

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent.
National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 2007 planted acres.

Crop Progress and Condition Survey and Estimating Procedures

Survey Procedures: Crop progress and condition estimates are based on survey data collected each week from early April through the end of November. The non-probability crop progress and condition surveys include input from more than 5,000 reporters whose occupations provide them opportunities to make visual observations and frequently bring them in contact with farmers in their counties. Based on standard definitions, these reporters subjectively estimate progress of farmers' activities and progress of crops through various stages of development. They also provide subjective evaluations of crop conditions.

Most reporters complete their questionnaires on Friday or early Monday morning and submit them to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Field Offices in their States by mail, telephone, fax, e-mail, or through a secured internet website. A small number of reports are completed on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. Regardless of when questionnaires are completed, reporters are asked to report for the week ending on Sunday. For reports submitted prior to the Sunday reference date, a degree of uncertainty is introduced by projections for weekend changes in progress and condition. By the end of the 2001 season, nearly two-thirds of the data were being submitted through the internet website. As a result, about one-half of all data are submitted on Monday morning, significantly reducing projection uncertainty.

Reporters are sent written reporting instructions at the beginning of each season and are contacted periodically to ensure proper reporting. Terms and definitions of crop stages and condition categories used as reporting guidelines are available on the NASS website at: www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/National_Crop_Progress/terms_definitions.asp.

Estimating Procedures: Reported data are reviewed for reasonableness and consistency by comparing with data reported the previous week and data reported in surrounding counties for the current week. Each State Field Office summarizes the reported data to district and State levels, weighting each county's reported data by NASS county acreage estimates. Summarized indications are compared with previous week estimates, and progress items are compared with earlier stages of development and historical averages to ensure reasonableness. Weather events and reporter comments are also taken into consideration. State estimates are submitted to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) along with supporting comments, where they are compared with surrounding States and compiled into a National level summary by weighting each State by its acreage estimates.

Revision Policy: Progress and condition estimates in the ***Crop Progress*** report are released after 4:00 pm ET on the first business day of the week. These estimates are preliminary and subject to corrections or updates in the ***Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*** that is released after 12:00 pm ET on the second business day of the week. These estimates are subject to revision the following week.

Crop Progress and Condition tables expected next week:

Barley- Harvested
Corn- Dented, Mature, Harvested, Condition
Cotton- Bolls Opening, Harvested, Condition
Pasture and Range- Condition
Peanuts- Harvested, Condition
Rice- Harvested, Condition
Sorghum- Coloring, Mature, Harvested, Condition
Soybeans- Dropping Leaves, Condition
Spring Wheat- Harvested
Sugarbeets- Harvested
Winter Wheat- Planted

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